



HR1180

LRB097 22168 MST 70899 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Ardis W. Cook on
4 her 38 years of service to the Department of Children and
5 Family Services; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1975, as a student intern, she received a
7 commendation from the National Adoption Listing Service as
8 having placed and completed the most adolescent adoptions in
9 one year; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1976, Ardis Cook began her career at DCFS as
11 the sole intake worker for Vermilion County; she investigated
12 child abuse and neglect cases as well as provided services to
13 dependent children and on prevention situations; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1980, due to the Child Abuse Hotline being
15 revamped into a statewide reporting tool, as well as the
16 forming of the new Division of Child Protection, Ardis Cook
17 took part in the development of new rules, procedures, and
18 protocols; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1986, she was promoted to the newly created
20 position of Regional Child Protection Manager in which she
21 excelled in the further development of programs designed to

1 protect children; she assisted in various training curriculum
2 development and became a certified practicing trainer; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1992, Ardis Cook was appointed by then Director
4 of the Department to one of the B.H. reform panels in response
5 to a major lawsuit concerning the caseload sizes and standards
6 in cases assigned to the workers; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1994, Ardis Cook worked with national experts
8 to develop and train the others in the concept of the
9 difference between safety and risk for children; she held
10 training sessions for both state employees and well as private
11 agency staff; she was selected to tutor and train staff that
12 had difficulties with understanding the application of the
13 concepts; all of the people who attended her review training
14 sessions passed the certification test; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2003, Ardis Cook was promoted to the Assistant
16 to the Deputy for Child Protection for downstate Illinois; she
17 still volunteered many hours assisting special projects in Cook
18 County, conducting special reviews, and mentoring both old and
19 new supervisors in order to improve the overall improvement of
20 services to families; her most recent assignment was to assist
21 with a caseload reduction project in the St. Clair County and
22 Madison County areas; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2012, Ardis Cook became a role model and staff
2 mentor for the northern region of Illinois; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we congratulate Ardis W. Cook for 38 years of service to the
6 Department of Children and Family Services; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to Ardis W. Cook as a symbol of our esteem and
9 respect.